

Inventor: GUENIN
Serial No. 10/559,617
The U.S. National Stage Application of
International Application No. PCT/FR04/01365
Art Unit 3727

REMARKS

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in lieu of payment of the Issue Fee in view of the Notice of Allowance dated June 15, 2009.

Claims 4-8, 10 and 11-14 are now present in the application.

Claims 4-8 and 10 are allowable in view of the Notice of Allowance dated, June 15, 2009.

New claims 11-14 correspond, respectively, to previously presented claims 1-3 and 9 but have been amended to distinguish over the prior art and to overcome all objections to the previously presented claims.

Claim 11 differs from previous claim 1 by the additional limitation of "said head (2) of the brush comprises at least one longitudinal partition (28,31, 32)...". The basis for this limitation is set out in the specification at page 10, line 28 to page 11 line 20. This feature is neither taught nor suggested by the art of record.

In U.S. patent 3,962,742 there is no airtight partition. The brush housing 10 is hollow and, inside, the arms 17 and two prongs are simply steel spring wires and do not form an airtight wall, no more than the bristle housing means 16. Thus, the entry and exit air flow are aligned during operation.

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In U.S. patent 5,979,463 there is also no airtight partition inside of the brush. The brush shown in this patent is completely hollow. The elongated portion 43 on which the flexible brush bristles are fixed will not send the entry flow backwards.

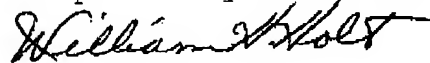
Claim 12 and 13 correspond to previously presented claims 2 and 3 and are deemed to be allowable with parent claim 11.

Claim 14 corresponds to previously presented claim 9 but has been amended to overcome the Section 112 rejection in the Office action of October 9, 2008, and is deemed to be allowable, as indicated in that Office action.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the application is requested, and allowance of newly presented claims 11-14 along with previously allowed claims 4-8 and 10 is courteously solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,



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